

ABSTRACT

CARR-309

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 73(76)

1767 (reset 1902)

Harney, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 73(76) is an original monument of 1767 at its original site, marking Mason and Dixon's 73rd horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of their survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone, measuring about 12" square by about 4 1/2' long, cut to stand as a post about 3' above ground, with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground, and capped by a low pyramidal top. It is embellished with vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with the fluting carried up the top planes to a centered apex. The distinguishing decorative features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, this milestone was reset to stand about 1 1/2' above ground, as it does to this day. It remains in good condition, unaltered, and with most embellishments clear and fairly intact, except for large chips on the south side and all edges and top corners, and noticeable weathering of the top, now almost flat. On the national and state levels, No. 73(76) is significant primarily as one of the series of 135 original monuments still marking the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. CARR-309

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name) *

historic BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
(Mason and Dixon's) West Line 73rd Mile Stone

* and/or common Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 73 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 76)

2. Location

street & number off north end of Frock Road X not for publication

city, town Harney X vicinity of congressional district MD: 6 / PA: 19

state Maryland county MD: Carroll / PA: Adams

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status N/A	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u>X</u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture <u> </u> museum
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial <u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational <u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment <u> </u> religious
<u>X</u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government <u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial <u> </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military <u>X</u> other: state boundary marker

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

(monument only; see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)
name State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

N/A (see surrounding property ownership list)
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Carroll County Historic Sites Inventory

date CARR-309 entered 1/80 federal X state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-309

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Milestone No. 73(76) marks Mason and Dixon's 73rd horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original monument of 1767, in good condition, unaltered, and at its original site, though reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is farmland, sparsely settled, open except for the woods following Alloway Creek ^{close by} and its tributaries. The site is within Election District 1 of Carroll County, ^{MD} Germany Township of Adams County, PA; a little over 2 miles east northeast of the towns of Harney, MD; ^{at a point} about 800' east of Alloway Creek and about 700' north of the end of Frock Road, in the middle of a flat finger of farmland surrounded by Alloway Creek (on the north and west) and a small tributary (on the south). It cannot be seen from any road, but easily from nearby when vegetation is dormant and crops have been harvested.

As with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, this milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top; quarried and carved in England, measuring about 12" square by about 4½' long, cut to stand about 3' above ground with the base left rough-cut for setting below ground. There is vertical fluting on all four sides, edged with horizontally-fluted margins, and with fluting carried into the top planes which converge at a centered apex. The distinguishing decorative features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902 this milestone was reset to stand about 1½' high, as it still remains. There has been considerable chipping by farm machinery recently, especially on the south side ^{into the letter M} and all edges and corners. Although protected from the public it is not marked and very vulnerable to damage by machinery working the field. Otherwise, the embellishments remain clear, except for weathering of the top and west side.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) boundary surveying

Specific dates 1767 (reset 1902) Builder/Architect Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☒ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Milestone No. 73(76) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still defining their ^{230.228-mile} West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and monument set in 1767, where it remains unaltered in its original site to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments still marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), No. 73(76) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-309

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acreQuadrangle name Taneytown (Maryland-Pennsylvania)
USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic)Quadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA

1	8	3	1	4	4	3	9	8
Zone		Easting			Northing			

B

Zone		Easting			Northing			

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification N/A

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state Maryland code county Carroll codestate Pennsylvania code county Adams code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason & Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)organization Maryland Historical Trust &
Maryland Geological Surveydate 9/21/80 (site surveyed)street & number 14308 Mount Avenuetelephone 301/472-2128city or town Phoenixstate Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

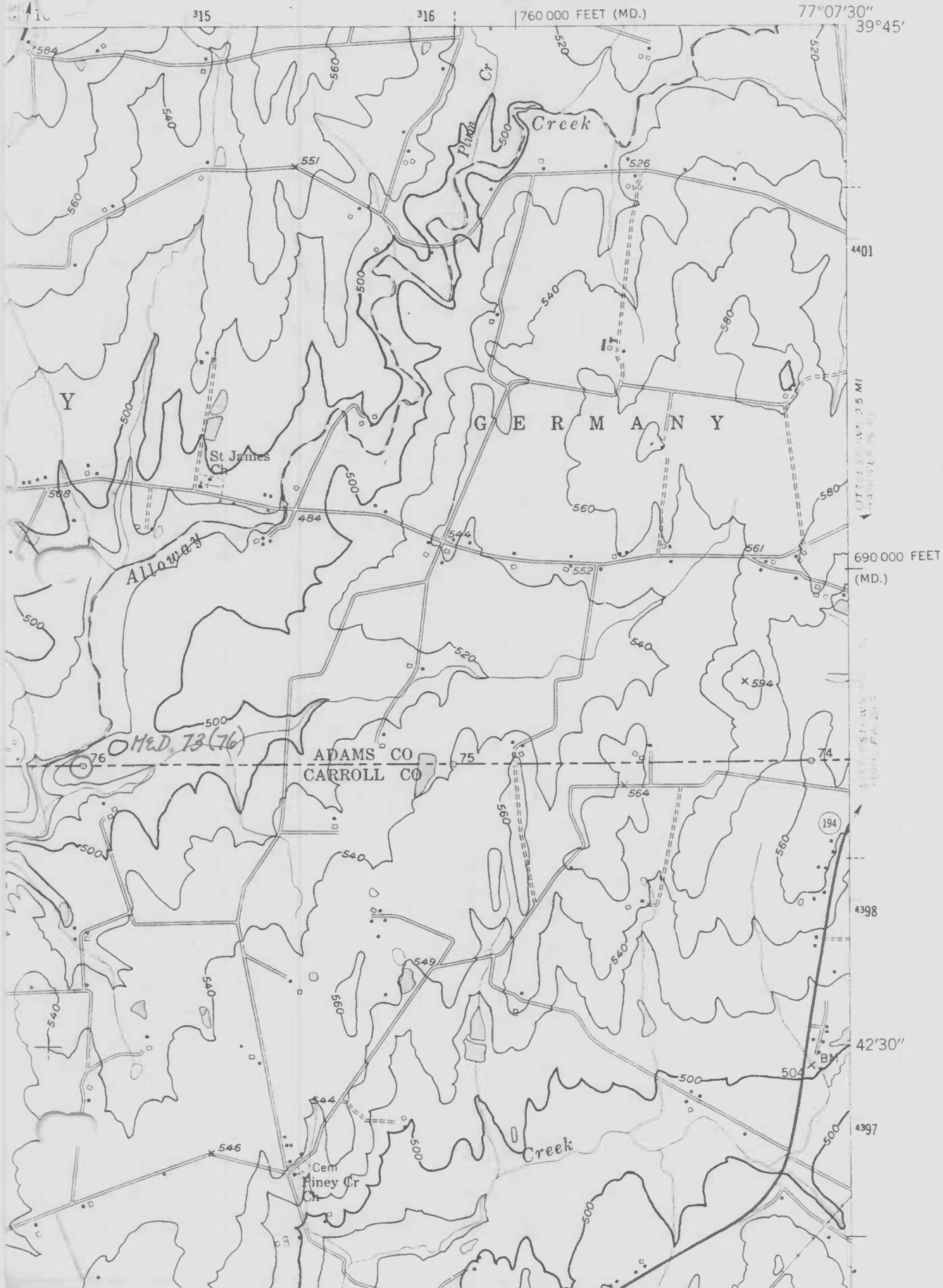
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

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MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 73(76)

TANEYTOWN QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND—PENNSYLVANIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1953 PHOTO REV. 1971 SCALE: 1" = 2000'

5563.1 SE
MC SHERRY TOWN



DATE 12-1-81 ASSIGNMENT (ARREST CARRY 73(76)) FILE NO. 1152
 MASON & DIXON WEST LINE (40-47) BOUNDARY MARKERS!
 (HGS FILE)

1932 JUM3 3012
 PHOTO 3012

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 73(76)

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MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 73 (76)
 1/4 N END FRICK RD. HANDELY, MD. VICINITY
 SEE MAP (M-1) AREA: ALICE MARTIN PROPERTY
 PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/20/80

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VIEW LOOKING NW

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/20/80

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 73 (76)
 1/4 N END OF FRICK RD. HANDELY, MD. VICINITY
 SEE MAP (M-1)
 PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1786.27.234) 10/20/80

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MASON-DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 73 (76), ORIGINAL (176)
OFF N END, FROCK ROAD, HARNEY, MT. VERNITY

SE CORNER (M/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.27. 21A) 10/20/80



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MASON EDIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE 13 (16) ⁽¹⁷⁶⁷⁾ ORIGINAL
OFF N END, FROCK ROAD, HARNEY, MD. VICINITY
NW CORNER (P/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.27.22A) 10/20/80